



## United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Carson City District – Stillwater Field Office  
5665 Morgan Mill Road  
Carson City, Nevada 89701-1448  
[http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/carson\\_city\\_field.html](http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/carson_city_field.html)

In Reply Refer To:

MAR 05 2012

5000 (NVC0100)

Dear Interested Party:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Stillwater Field Office, in coordination with Nevada Department of Wildlife, University of Nevada Reno, Smith Creek Ranch, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Great Basin Bird Observatory, and U.S. Geological Service, has prepared a preliminary Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Desatoya Mountains Resiliency, Health, and Restoration Project (Project). The project area encompasses approximately 32,000 acres of various treatments, including wild horse removal, within 230,000 acres of public land in Churchill and Lander Counties of central Nevada. The draft EA analyzes the potential direct, indirect, and cumulative effects to the human environment associated with the Project, which would entail restoration and protection of habitat for sage-grouse and other wildlife by preventing loss of sagebrush and riparian plant communities due to pinyon pine and juniper expansion, excess wild horses, and by reducing fire hazard fuels.

The draft EA is now available for public review and comment on the BLM's website at: [http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/carson\\_city\\_field.html](http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/carson_city_field.html). Hard copies are available at the Carson City District Office.

The vegetation treatments, continual wild horse removal, and fencing are proposed as part of a broad conservation effort including the *National Sage-Grouse Habitat Conservation Strategy* and the *Greater Sage Grouse Conservation Plan for Nevada and Eastern California*. Treatments are designed to restore ecological diversity and habitat resiliency that in turn supports many wildlife species other than sage-grouse. Comments on the draft Desatoya Mountains Resiliency, Health, and Restoration Project Environmental Assessment (DOI-BLM-NV-C010-2011-0513-EA) will be accepted through April 4, 2012. Interested individuals may send written comments to BLM-Carson City District Office, 5665 Morgan Mill Road, Carson City, NV 89701, attn: John Wilson, or for wild horse specific comments attn: John Axtell or e-mail comments to [desatoyaEA@blm.gov](mailto:desatoyaEA@blm.gov). Comments may also be sent via FAX to 775-885-6147.

Please call John Wilson at 775-885-6191 for more project information. For wild horse specific information please call John Axtell at 775-885-6146.

Sincerely,

Teresa J. Knutson  
Field Manager  
Stillwater Field Office